United Nations S/PRST/2008/33

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 September 2008

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5970th meeting of the Security Council, held on 4 September 2008, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Somalia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the signing of a peace and reconciliation Agreement ("the Djibouti Agreement") between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the Alliance for the Re-Liberation of Somalia (ARS) in Djibouti on 19 August 2008, the preliminary work undertaken by the High Level Committee and the Joint Security Committee set up under that Agreement, as well as recent political developments. The Security Council expresses its determination that the Agreement should provide the basis for lasting peace, security and stability for the people of Somalia, including the ultimate withdrawal of foreign forces. The Security Council commends the efforts deployed by the TFG and the ARS to this end and their commitment to peace.

"The Security Council reaffirms its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia.

"The Security Council extends its gratitude to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Mr Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah, and to the UN Political Office for Somalia for mediating dialogue between the parties and garnering support for the political process. The Security Council further expresses its gratitude to the Government of Djibouti for hosting talks between the parties.

"The Security Council calls on the parties to meet all elements of their Agreement in full. In particular, the Council underlines the crucial importance of the parties taking all necessary measures to ensure, without delay, unhindered humanitarian access and assistance to the Somali people, and of the parties and their allies terminating all acts of armed confrontation. The Security Council states its support for the implementation of the Agreement and its intention to review that implementation continuously.

"The Security Council reiterates its strong support for the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) and urges again the international community to provide financial resources, personnel, equipment and services for the full deployment of AMISOM.

08-49747 (E) 040908

"The Security Council takes note of the parties' request in the Djibouti Agreement that the United Nations, within a period of 120 days, authorise and deploy an international stabilisation force. The Council further notes, in this regard, communiqués by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union of 29 June 2008, 8 August 2008 and 20 August 2008.

"The Security Council, acknowledging recent positive political developments in the wake of the Djibouti Agreement as confirmed by Mr Ould-Abdallah, reaffirms its willingness, as set out in its resolution 1814 (2008), to consider, at an appropriate time, a United Nations peacekeeping operation to take over from AMISOM, subject to progress in the political process and improvement in the security situation on the ground.

"The Security Council recalls the Secretary-General's contingency planning for a United Nations integrated peacekeeping mission in Somalia, which recommends that plans are put in place for the deployment of an international stabilisation force, in the framework of the approach presented by the Secretary-General in his report of 14 March 2008 (S/2008/178).

"In this regard, the Security Council requests that the Secretary-General elaborate on his contingency plans and provide, in consultation with the parties and other relevant stakeholders, a detailed and consolidated description of a feasible multinational force, its mandate and derived tasks, to include inter alia the size and geographical scope of that force, progressively deployed, and further provide a detailed concept of operations for a feasible United Nations peacekeeping operation.

"The Security Council further requests the Secretary-General urgently to identify and approach States that might contribute the financial resources, personnel, equipment and services required, stands ready to support the Secretary-General in this regard, and calls upon States to respond favourably.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the Djibouti Agreement by the parties, including an update on the conditions on the ground, as well as on his planning, including discussions with potential contributing States, within 60 days."

United Nations S/PRST/2008/34

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 September 2008

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5971st meeting of the Security Council, held on 4 September 2008, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Cyprus", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council warmly welcomes the launch of fully-fledged negotiations between the two leaders, under the Good Offices Mission of the Secretary-General, aimed at the reunification of Cyprus.

"The Security Council commends the two leaders for the progress made since their first meeting on 21 March and supports their common approach. The Security Council calls on both sides to continue to work together in a constructive and positive manner in order to reach a comprehensive and durable settlement approved in separate and simultaneous referenda. The Security Council looks forward to progress in the negotiations and reiterates its readiness to support the process.

"The Security Council welcomes the appointment of Alexander Downer as the Secretary General's Special Advisor and looks forward to being briefed on the progress of the Good Offices process."

08-49740 (E) 040908

United Nations S/PRST/2008/35

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 September 2008

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5978th meeting of the Security Council, held on 22 September 2008, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attack that occurred in Islamabad on 20 September 2008, causing numerous deaths and injuries, including among foreign diplomats. It expresses its deep sympathy and condolences to the victims of this heinous act of terrorism and to their families, and to the people and Government of Pakistan.

"The Security Council underlines the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of this reprehensible act of terrorism to justice, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and resolution 1373 (2001) and consistent with resolution 1624 (2005), to cooperate actively with the Pakistani authorities in this regard.

"The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Security Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. The Council reminds States that they must ensure any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

"The Security Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations."

08-51410 (E) 220908

United Nations S/PRST/2008/36

Security Council

Distr.: General
23 September 2008
English
Original: English/French

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5979th meeting of the Security Council, held on 23 September 2008, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security: mediation and settlement of disputes", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirms its commitment to the pacific settlement of disputes, including through mediation, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Chapter VI. The Council recalls all its relevant previous statements and resolutions.

"The Security Council underlines the importance of mediation as a means of pacific settlement of disputes, and encourages the further use of this mechanism in the settlement of disputes. The Council reaffirms the crucial role of the United Nations in this regard.

"The Security Council affirms that, as the organ with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, it has a responsibility to promote and support mediation as an important means for the pacific settlement of disputes.

"The Security Council emphasises the importance of the actions undertaken by the Secretary-General, in using his good offices and his representatives, special envoys, and United Nations mediators in promoting mediation and in the pacific settlement of disputes. The Council takes notes of the establishment of the Department of Political Affairs' Mediation Support Unit, which provides expertise for supporting the mediation efforts of the United Nations, regional and sub-regional organisations.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that mediation processes conducted by or under the auspices of the United Nations are guided by the Purposes and Principles of the Organization and that mediators are experienced, impartial, have a good knowledge of all the stakeholders, facts and circumstances of any dispute to which they have been assigned, and are provided with the necessary support and flexibility to approach mediation according to the specificities of the disputes; to this end, the Council encourages the Secretary-General to consider ways to strengthen the Secretariat's capabilities.

08-51716 (E) 230908

"The Security Council notes the important contribution of regional and subregional organizations, civil society and other stakeholders to the pacific settlement of disputes, in particular through mediation, and commends them for their efforts. The Council is resolved to strengthen United Nations support to such mediation efforts through improved cooperation, in particular in Africa; the Council encourages other bilateral and multilateral partners to do likewise.

"The Security Council underlines the importance of engaging the potential and the existing capacities and capabilities of regional and subregional organizations in mediation efforts, and welcomes the promotion of regional approaches to the pacific settlement of disputes.

"The Security Council notes that women have an important role to play in the settlement of disputes, stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and calls upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional and subregional organizations to take into account the gender aspect during mediators selection, as well as the approach and perspective that women can render in mediation processes.

"The Security Council highlights the importance of considering peacebuilding and recovery requirements in the mediation process to help build the foundations for sustainable peace, and stresses that the Peacebuilding Commission has a role to play in the promotion of mediation.

"The Security Council emphasises the need to ensure the coherence of mediation processes by or under the auspices of the United Nations, through the improved coordination of efforts with others actors, including regional and subregional organizations, in order to enhance the effectiveness of international efforts.

"The Security Council also stresses that no mediation initiative can be viable without ownership and full involvement of all relevant parties to the dispute throughout the process. The Council reaffirms that conflict prevention and pacific settlement of disputes, should be at the core of mediation efforts.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to submit, within six months of the adoption of this statement, a report on mediation and its support activities, which takes into account experiences of the United Nations and other key actors, and makes recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of United Nations mediation."